

THE WEEK OF
July 4th, 2010



Summer of
Psalms

Psalm 46

"God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble"
-Psalm 46:1

Disaster can strike without notice and can come in many forms. From the decline of our economy to the huge oil spill in the Gulf to natural disasters such as tornadoes and hurricanes, we have much on our plate. As men, we're often looked to for answers and leadership in such situations.

Anyone who has ever lived through a natural disaster will tell you that you can't help but feel small in comparison to what's going on around you. There's something beautiful about it that's almost hypnotic. It takes God's creativity and artistry to another level. It becomes a literal time to "Be still and know that I am God," as the psalm says.

Something else to note about such storms is that as they approach, the wind, rain and hail can become stronger and more dangerous. But something interesting happens in the center of the storm - everything stops. The clouds whip around you at amazing speed, but it's perfectly still. The same can happen in our own personal storms. As they build the calamity in our hearts and minds may increase, but God can calm the storm even at its peak.

Storms, whether in nature or in our hearts can be make it or break it moments for us. Sometimes they're both, but the point is we have to be ready for them. I've seen first-hand many so-called believers just cave-in and panic while others held to their faith. It's not always easy to be strong and brave, but if you're right with God, he'll give you that strength and courage when you need it. If you're not completely right with God, then get right with him. Confess any hidden sin and repent. God will accept you and restore you. He loves you.

God bless you Men!

Read the Proverb and the section of Psalm 119 that corresponds with the calendar day example:
If it's the 1st day of the month, read Proverbs 1 and Psalm 119:1-8 (Aleph)

Mon: Psalm 46; Proverb 4 (Notice that Psalm 46 is listed each day this week to help us all memorize it)

Tue: Psalm 46; Proverb 5

Wed: Psalm 46; Proverb 6

Thu: Psalm 46; Proverb 7

Fri: Psalm 46; Proverb 8

Discussion Questions for Bible Café:

1. Have you ever witnessed or lived through a natural disaster? What did God teach you through it?

2. Are you going through a personal storm in your marriage, job, or friendship? Share with your group.

Prayer Requests of your Bible Café brothers (on back):